GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2641
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2008
SETTING UP OF ENERGY BIO -SCIENCES CENTRE
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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up India's first energy Bio-sciences Centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when this Centre is likely to start functioning?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has established the first Energy Biosciences Centre at University Institute of Chemical Technology (UICT), Mumbai which is primarily aimed at developing renewable energy resources for reducing India's rising dependence on petroleum fuels and cut down emission of greenhouse gases. The DBT-UICT Centre of Energy Biosciences has the specific mandate of developing new cutting edge technologies and also integrating technology components developed elsewhere in the country under various research schemes, all with the aim of providing liquid biofuel for the country. The main focus of the institute is on :

Bioalcohol Biorefinery
Biodiesel
Biohydrogen
Methane

(c) The Centre is already functional.